

11. 2. 1957.

Dear Professor Leidenberg, Temp. 77 480 E 7th
NYC

I received Your letter and reprints too and thank You very much for both of them. Since my last letter we both (my wife and I) and my colleagues have begun working. Peter Lengyel is in contact with Prof. Halvorson and we together have written a letter to Vice-President Baldwin thanking his generous support.

In Sloan-Kettering Institute I work in the Protein Chemistry Dept. which is wonderfully equipped with all of those modern instruments which seemed only an unaccessible dream to us in Hungary. Here I began work in Dr. Balin's section and it will be possible to continue the work I began in Hungary about nucleotides with the free nucleotide composition of the parent strain *E. coli* B and one of its deficient mutants requiring histidine and purine esp. After some time I should like to consider how and where to begin work for Ph.D. degree, which will — among others — depend on the acceptance of my qualifications by the Foreign Student's Center. Dr. Brown offered His support very kindly in this respect.

To my greatest astonishment some days ago I received a letter from Prof. Györgyffy. It happened namely, that He unexpectedly received a message which I sent indirectly to Him and in which I informed Him about Your asking for reference. He writes me now that He has mailed already such a reference letter to Your address by ordinary mail. He did not write me anything about hypoxanthine and according to Your advice, I ^{asked} ~~wrote~~ Him on indirect way whether I should try to do anything or not. Now I am waiting for the answer.

It's to Dr. Tulian, I did not know him personally, I know only His work which has many similarities with the work of Your laboratory and — as I remember — He made a very interesting microkinematographic film about

the stages of penicillin induced reversible cellwall tebolization and
protoplast forming phenomena. I do not know whether the remainder in
brackets are correct.

Finally I should like to thank You very much in permitting me to
inform You sometimes about my plans and progress — and in mentioning
that perhaps at a later date — as we agreed — I should have the
possibility to work in Your laboratory

We both are very grateful for Your best wishes as to our future.

Yours very sincerely

Alexander Thomas

and Peter Langford